

(c) The basic reason for the delay is air traffic congestion which occurs because various airlines choose to operate during prime period due to commercial factors. Airlines normally also are not adhering to allotted slots due to various reasons such as technical, commercial and weather.

(d) Various measures have been taken to remove the congestion at airports such as new high speed exit taxiways have been constructed at Delhi and Mumbai airports, a parallel taxi track at Delhi airport, simultaneous use of both runways at Delhi and Mumbai airports during peak traffic periods, improved ATC procedures, ban on general aviation aircraft, upgradation of ATC automation systems, operation of Surface Movement Radars and Advanced Surface Movement Guidance and Control System at Delhi airport, upgradation of Instrument Landing System to CAT-II ILS at Kolkata airport have been introduced.

New greenfield airports

565. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the greenfield airports currently under construction in the country alongwith the estimated dates of beginning of their operations; and

(b) the details of greenfield airport projects currently in the process of approval?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) Two greenfield airports namely Hyderabad International Airport and Bangalore International Airport are under construction. Both these airports are expected to start their operation by April 2008.

(b) Proposals from State Governments for greenfield airports at Phek in Nagaland, Chithu near Kohima in Nagaland, Chakan II, (Rajguru Nagar) near Pune and Navi Mumbai in Maharashtra, Kannur in Kerala and Itanagar in Arunachal Pradesh have been received 'In-principle' approval has been given for a new airport at Mopa in Goa. The other proposals are at different stages of consideration.

Upgradation of airports in Rajasthan

566. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of airports in Rajasthan have been identified for upgradation and which would be of international standard;

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(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what is the road-map and time-frame thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) At Jaipur airport, presently, limited international operations are allowed and extension of runway and allied works have been completed and various other development works like construction of new international terminal complex, extension of apron, construction of parallel taxi track have been initiated.

At Udaipur airport, there are plans for construction of a new terminal building having facilities for limited international operations, construction of apron to park wide bodied aircraft, extension of runway.

(c) The expected date of completion of above development works at Jaipur airport is October, 2007 and March, 2007 for Udaipur airport.

Funds for aviation sector

567. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a total of Rs. 26,000 crore would be required for the Indian aviation sector for purchase of aircrafts replacement of old fleet and modernization of airports, etc.;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that effective capacity of existing facilities can be augmented through innovative and inexpensive means?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) A total of Rs. 44,5000 crores (approximately) is required to be spent on acquisition of 68 aircraft by ATr India Limited and 43 aircraft by Indian Airlines Limited. Besides, a fund requirement of Rs. 21,000 crores (approximately) is estimated for modernization and upgradation of major airports including non-metro airports in the country.

(c) Efforts are made for the optimum utilization of the existing facilities.